

not, according to the view here, have marched to the verge of war with the United States.

The German note was presented at the American State Department late this afternoon by Count von Bernstorff. He and the Secretary of State, Robert Lansing, were together alone for a short time. After the interview neither would say a word for publication.

It was learned that the conversation was of a purely formal nature. Beyond receiving the communication Mr. Lansing said nothing and indicated in no way what the future course of this government would be.

Blow Long Expected by United States

Although the contents of the note fell with stunning force on all officials here there could be noted in the attitude of all the high officials of the State Department a resigned apathy. The note seemed to fulfill a certain expectation. It was something they had hoped against hope would not happen. But now it had happened.

Germany at Last Made Formal Declaration

That from now on the wishes and feelings of the United States would not be respected or considered. At least there could be an end of dreaming. As for action, that must be considered slowly and with extreme care.

The President conducted all of his interviews with his assistants over the telephone to-night. All was quiet in the State Department and in the White House offices. At the Navy Department not a creature was stirring. The Secretary of the Navy had not heard of the German note until long after dinner, when a newspaper man called him up.

Wilson "Holding the Bag"

Expected as it was the German note comes hard to Mr. Wilson and his supporters. To use a slang phrase, repeated several times to-night in diplomatic circles which are up to date on Americanisms, Mr. Wilson, as far as the peace manoeuvres are concerned, is left in the position of one "holding the bag."

The happenings since Bethmann-Hollweg made his speech to the Reichstag on December 12, followed by the German note suggesting a conference, Mr. Wilson's immediate reinforcement of that in asking for a statement of terms, the Allies' rejection of the German offer and their concrete statement of the terms on which they would make peace, and finally Mr. Wilson's address to the Senate—all of this appears to have been used as a background for the German note of to-day.

The determination to renew ruthless submarine warfare, the policy of frightfulness carried to its limit, was taken immediately after the reply of the Allies to the first peace note of President Wilson.

The declaration to-day of a blockade comes in the reply to the President's address to the Senate because that had not been for the President's note and the reply of the Allies this latest declaration of frightfulness might have been delayed for a time, but not for long.

Tried to Avert Crisis

The President surely knew the danger when he sent his first peace note. The danger had been foreseen in Washington two months back. Dispatches to The Tribune from here and from London had made it clear. All the world was informed of it when Mr. Secretary Lansing made his now famous "verge of war" explanation, which is now so completely borne out.

The message to the Senate last week, considered apart from its declaration of sound but abstract principle and only as an additional move in the peace manoeuvres, appears to have been the last desperate step to avert a crisis by aiding the peace drive.

Its substance was more pleasing to

the Allies than to the Germans, for it stated principles for which the Allies are sacrificing blood and gold, but the time of its deliverance was calculated to aid Germany. This was the cause of the joy in German circles.

Gerard Brought U-Boat Threat

The knowledge which the President had of the danger now threatening to break, knowledge of German preparations for an unprecedented submarine campaign, goes back several months, it was learned positively to-night. Mr. Gerard brought the positive information, as has been so often stated, of the building of a gigantic submarine fleet.

The German and the American governments appear to have been in intimate communication. The course of the American government in pressing so hard for peace at this time was possibly not dictated by Germany, but it was known that it would be pleasing to the imperial man called him up.

Doesn't Claim Legality

Germany has no delusions about the illegality of a submarine blockade or the declaration of a war zone. She finds, according to her friends here, her justification entirely on grounds of reprisal. The blockade which the British fleet maintains is illegal under the international code; therefore, why should Germany not take advantage of illegality?

"If anybody is going to be starved it won't be us," is the way they put it.

Such a blockade, or, rather, a war zone, was declared by Germany in February, 1915. That brought forth the strict accountability note, followed by so many other communications. But this government spoke finally in April in the Sussex note.

Demanding Pressure on Foes

In acquiescing in that demand the German government stated:

"And it does not doubt that the government of the United States will now demand and insist that the British government shall forthwith observe the rules of international law universally recognized before the war as they are laid down in the notes presented by the government of the United States to the British government on December 28, 1914, and November 5, 1915. Should the steps taken by the government of the United States not attain the objects it desires to have the laws of humanity followed by all belligerent nations, the German government would then be facing a new situation in which it must reserve to itself complete liberty of decision."

U. S. Rebuffs Demand

The reply of the government of the United States, however, did not recognize any such position. The American note stated:

"In order to avoid any possible misunderstandings, the government of the United States notifies the imperial government that it cannot for a moment entertain, much less discuss, a suggestion that respect by German naval authorities for the rights of neutrals and non-combatants upon the high seas should in any way or in the slightest degree be made contingent upon the conduct of any other government affecting the rights of neutrals and non-combatants. Responsibility in such matters is single, not joint; absolute, not relative."

Foresee Period of Slaughter

Officials here do not conceal their disquietude over the mental unpreparedness of the American public for what may be coming. The recent flood of peace discussion is thought to have turned public opinion in this country entirely away from the possibility of war and to have focussed attention on the terms of a near peace.

A Revulsion is Expected to Take Place in the Entente Countries, with the result that the world war will enter a period of frightfulness unimagined heretofore. With the massing for huge offensives by land and

Advertisement for Egyptian DEITIES cigarettes. The ad features an illustration of two Egyptian deities, one holding a staff and the other a bow. Text includes: "Egyptian DEITIES The Ultimate in Cigarettes Plain End or Cork Tip", "People of culture, refinement and education invariably PREFER DEITIES to any other cigarette", and "25¢".

Tirpitz Back in Power After Defeat by Hollweg

Two Years of Undersea Warfare Outward Manifestation of Bitter Strife in Council Chamber Between Admiral and Chancellor

The two years of undersea warfare which Germany has waged—now ruthlessly and terribly, now cautiously—against the ships of her enemies has been the outward manifestation of a scarcely less bitter strife which has been carried on in her council chambers.

Two figures stand behind the long tale of courage and crime to which the German U-boats add new chapters each month. Since that long distant time when the United States sent its first warning of "strict accountability" these two have been struggling for supremacy in the naval affairs of the German Empire.

One is von Bethmann-Hollweg, the suave and tactful Chancellor of Germany. The other is von Tirpitz, apostle of "shrecklichkeit," until March 15, 1916, Grand Admiral of the Kaiser's navy, and recently reinforced by von Hindenburg.

Hollweg is the diplomat, reluctant to offend, eager to placate the peaceful nations, a bidder for neutral sympathy. Tirpitz is the fighter, merciless and unscrupulous, a scoffer at international law, a staunch believer in the doctrine that might makes right.

In Struggle from Beginning

Almost from the beginning of the great war, these two leaders of hostile schools of national thought in Germany have been locked in a struggle for absolute leadership. For a time during those terrible days when the Lusitania, the Arabic, the Falaba, the Gulfight, and a hundred other ships were torpedoed without warning, von Tirpitz had the ascendancy.

Then, as the wrath of the neutral world gathered over Germany, his star was clouded and the crafty Chancellor's power gained in strength. This culminated in what was then believed to have been a permanent victory for Hollweg in April of 1916, when the grand admiral's epaulettes were taken from Tirpitz and placed upon the shoulders of von Capell.

But long ago, before the war was anything but a dream which troubled Europe, Tirpitz had gained a nickname which was a prophecy, "Tirpitz, der ewige," the German people called him—"Tirpitz, the eternal." Germany's threat of a renewal of the U-boat war in all its ruthlessness is a sign that the "eternal one" has only been gathering his strength for battle, and is now ready again to rise in his might.

Would Fight to the Death

The dive of the submarine and the hiss of the torpedo plunging toward its mark is the only way in which the deposed Grand Admiral of Germany would answer the unarmed protests of neutrals. Given his way, he would fight, fight, fight until his land had trampled the rest of the earth beneath its feet or lay dead in the dust. He and the parties that support him, the Conservatives and the National Lib-

erals—would have nothing to do with diplomacy. Their dream is a literal "Deutschland über alles."

Hollweg is the foe with the sharp, lean face of his prototype, Tirpitz is the cornered lion, with the visage of Neptune. His square, bald head and his white beard have been favorite subjects for Allied cartoons. He is bluff and frank and brutal, where his opponent in the government is cautious and considerate of the sentiment of the world.

Hollweg believes in a war for defence only. His is the effort which time and time again directs the German nation to make tentative moves for peace. He believes in diplomacy, Tirpitz in the torpedo and the dread-

naught.

But Tirpitz believes in the dreadnaught only when the torpedo has cleared the way for its victory. Six months after the war began he saw that a water Britain would hammer the German navy to bits. Jellicoe had driven all of the Kaiser's fleet that still was afloat into the Kiel Canal and then had sat down to wait for it to come out and be demolished.

Came Out with His U-Boats

And Tirpitz, the fighter, came out with his submarines. The "war zone" drawn about the British Isles on February 4, 1915, and the warning published in American papers, telling neutrals to keep off Allied liners were his. He was responsible for the U-boat reign of terror which found its climax in the sinking of the Lusitania.

But the storm of protest which his attack aroused among neutrals began to beat down upon Germany. He was saved by his increasing fierceness, but others who once had supported him were. Hollweg, the diplomat, began to rise in power.

The storm of protest had now begun to sound a note of retreat. This waxed so loud after the Arabic went down on August 19, 1915, that Tirpitz's power was broken. On September 25 the suave Chancellor was able to supplant him. Vice-Admiral Bachmann, head of the general naval staff, and Rear Admiral Behncke, vice-chief of staff—with men of his own choosing—were given the reins.

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tion in this country entirely away from the possibility of war and to have focussed attention on the terms of a near peace.

A revulsion is expected to take place in the Entente countries, with the result that the world war will enter a period of frightfulness unimagined heretofore. With the massing for huge offensives by land and the announcement of ruthlessness by sea, officials look forward to at least a spring and summer of unprecedented slaughter.

The German note sweeps away all the issues that have previously loomed so large, such as what armament a merchant ship can carry, where it must be located, how it may be used, whether the ship is chartered, requisitioned or still private, and replaces them with one clear issue which cannot be brooked or ignored.

Foresee Period of Slaughter

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Submarines to Prey on Hospital Ships

Germany Says Vessels Carry Troops and Must Stay Out of English Channel—Britain, Denying Charges, Threatens Reprisals

Berlin, Jan. 31. (By wireless to Sayville).—The Admiralty to-day made the following announcement:

The German government has convincing evidence in hand that hostile hospital ships frequently are misused for the transportation of ammunition and troops. The government has communicated these proofs to the British and French governments by diplomatic means.

At the same time it is declared that hospital ships passing on the military route of the hostile army engaged in France and Belgium, within the lines Flamborough Head-Dorchester, on the one hand, and Thames-Land's End, on the other, shall be no more treated as such. Hostile powers are free to use hospital ships for the transportation of wounded and sick army members on ways outside this district.

The barring of other sea routes is reserved, in case of further misuse of hospital ships in violation of international law.

London, Jan. 31.—An official statement, issued to-day, follows:

The German government announce that "they have conclusive proof that in several instances enemy hospital ships often have been misused for the transport of munitions and troops." They also state that they have placed these proofs, through diplomatic channels, before the British and French governments and have, at the same time, declared that the traffic of hospital ships on military routes for the forces fighting in France and Belgium within lines drawn between Flamborough Head and Terschelling, on one hand, and from Usant to Land's End, on the other, will no longer be tolerated.

The British government has received no such communication through diplomatic channels, or otherwise, from the German government as alleged and they most emphatically deny that British hospital ships have been used for the transport of munitions and troops or in any way contrary to the Hague convention for the adaptation of the principles of the Geneva Convention to maritime war.

Under the convention, the belligerents have the right to search hospital ships, and the German government have, therefore, an obvious remedy in case of suspicion—a remedy which they never have utilized.

From the German government's statement that hospital ships will be no longer tolerated within the limits mentioned only one conclusion can be drawn—viz., that it is the intention of the German government to add yet other and more unspeakable crimes against the law of humanity to the long list which disgraces their record.

In these circumstances the British government has requested the United States government to inform the German government that his majesty's government has decided that if the threat is carried out reprisals will immediately be taken by the British authorities concerned.

Germany's Threat Arouses Indignation of England

By ARTHUR S. DRAPER [By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Jan. 31.—The British government's threat of reprisals toward Germany for her declaration that she will sink without warning any hospital ships she can reach in the English Channel shows how bitter the feeling of the nation toward Germany is becoming, as well as the shifting of opinion in the Foreign Office.

There is every reason to expect increased German efforts to sink all merchant shipping. [Mr. Draper's dispatch was cabled before word of the German government's decision to do this had reached London.] Naval circles here expect Germany soon to open a bitter struggle at sea, throwing aside all pretence of carrying on warfare according to the laws of civilized nations.

Charges Declared Unfounded

Already Germany is charging that the placing of the new British mine field is an aggressive measure, though when her ships mined the east coast of the Channel the measure was not heralded as a means of offence.

Although the press and people of Britain often clamored for reprisals during the Zeppelin raids of the last two years, the government has refrained from adopting such measures. Lord Balfour, as Foreign Minister, is the last person in the world who would consider reprisals, and the fact that the Foreign Office now announces them shows clearly how seriously the government regards the German threat and how unfounded are the German charges that the British hospital ships are being put to improper use.

What form the reprisals will take none at the Foreign Office would state to-night, and there is much speculation as to what line will be taken when leaving Bremerhaven. This also would indicate that Germany is desperate.

Howard E. Jones, partner in James W. Elwell & Co., agents for several American companies, as well as for the Fabre (French) Steamship Company, was not surprised at Germany's action.

"The plan undoubtedly is to blockade, by means of mines, American ships," he said. "It probably will succeed until there is some one in Washington ready to see that the rights of American citizens are respected. I should not be surprised some day to see the Lower Bay sown with mines, and then we should have to ask the Allies to lend us a fleet of trawlers to clear American waters."

"The conditions as set forth in the German note do not interest us. Our American vessels, as well as those of the Fabre Steamship Company, will continue to sail. Those that fly the American flag are freighters, carrying supplies to the Allies. If Washington cannot protect them we are content to rely on our friends, the Allies."

Munitions Being Sent

"German U-boats may have sunk thousands of tons of shipping, but they have not prevented England and France from getting munitions. Until the time comes when she is mistress of the seas her attempt at dictating to American shipowners may best be unnoticed."

Officially, the Norwegian, Danish and Swedish lines declined to make any comment on the note until they receive advice from their home offices.

The Scandinavian-American Line (Danish), as well as the Norwegian-American and the Swedish-American lines, have made it standard practice since the war began to accept no cargo destined to any of the belligerents.

The Dutch West India Mail Line (Dutch) officials refused to comment on the note.

One Line Runs Now

P. A. S. Franklin, president of the International Merchant Marine, which controls the American Line, said: "At present there is one line running regular American passenger steamers—the American Line."

"That line sends one regular American passenger steamer from this port

Advertisement for E.M. GATTLER & CO. Jewelers. Text includes: "Platinumsmiths 630 FIFTH AVE", "Marquise and Emerald Cut Diamonds in attractive Platinum settings suitable for Engagement Rings", and "Opposite St. Patrick's Cathedral".

PREDICTS BRITAIN WILL BE STARVED

Teuton Sees Germany's Enemies Crushed by New Blockade

Washington, Jan. 31.—"If anybody is going to starve as a result of illegal blockades and interferences with commerce it is not going to be the Germans. It's going to be the other fellows."

That was the statement to-night of one in thorough sympathy with Germany's latest move, who speaks with a clear understanding of the motives underlying the actions. Continuing, the speaker said:

"This blockade of England, France and Italy by submarines is the reply of Germany to the answer made by the Allies to the moves for peace made by Germany and by President Wilson. We regard the door to peace as having been absolutely closed by the Allied reply, so we are forced to resort to whatever means may be necessary to break the blockade by which Great Britain is attempting illegally to starve the women and children of Germany."

Predicts British Will Starve

"They have been trying to starve us for two years. We still live, but there is only enough foodstuffs in Great Britain to run that country for thirty days before there is absolute starvation. And this blockade will be effective. You will see—not a ship will get through."

"The most important thing is not to cut off the arms and munitions shipments. Those shipments, we know, are decreasing, anyhow. But we will give them a taste of their own medicine. They will be suing for peace in from sixty to ninety days."

"I am surprised, personally, that their move was not reported to some time ago. The Sussex note. Then we insisted that something be done to force Great Britain to abandon not only her illegal blockade of neutral commerce with Germany, but her interference with commerce between neutrals."

Not an Answer to Wilson

"This cannot be considered as a sequel to the move by the President, either in asking for a statement of the terms of peace or in his message to the Senate."

"Would the move have come so quickly from Germany if the President had not addressed his peace note to the powers, nor addressed the Senate?" he was asked.

"There are too many 'ifs' in that question," replied he, "but the proper way to view this statement is that it is an answer to the haughty answer of the Allies to the peace proposals. Their answer showed that nothing but the dismemberment of Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey would satisfy the Allies."

Germany Had Denied Plan

For weeks inspired, authoritative and almost semi-official statements have been coming from Berlin indicating an absolute decision not to resume unrestricted submarine warfare. The complete agreement of the Emperor, Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, General von Hindenburg and General von Ludendorff, the four men in whose hands Germany's destiny lies, has been mentioned frequently in dispatches passing the censor.

Information received only to-day, however, shows that a very careful campaign for the fall of the German Empire has been under way recently. It has been urged as essential to Germany's existence, and it was represented that it would be impossible now for President Wilson to get the American people behind him in a declaration of war.

Arm All Merchant Ships.

Demand French Leaders

Paris, Jan. 31.—The threatened renewal of intensified submarine warfare by Germany has led French leaders to demand that the French Maritime League to adopt a resolution requesting the Minister of Marine to take all necessary measures to arm merchant ships, steamers, sailing vessels and even fishing boats with cannon of suitable size and to take any other dispositions to insure effective defence of these vessels.

each Saturday. The steamships Finland and Kronland sail every other week.

I am familiar with the new restrictions announced by Germany. It appears from the effect on regular passenger traffic will be but one ship every two weeks.

FRENCH IN LORENAINE RAID

PIERCE TWO GERMAN LINES

London, Jan. 31.—Along the West front, while the artillery fire constantly increases in volume, actual fighting has been limited to-day to "feeling out" positions. Paris reports a brilliant raid in Lorraine, south of Leintz, in which both the first and second German lines were pierced. All the defenders were reported to have been put out of action, while the "pollux" returned with fifteen prisoners.

Berlin reports this attack as "repulsed" and also refers to the repulse of a determined French assault upon the recently conquered positions on Hill 304, upon which Paris is silent. Along the trench lines of the Vosges gun fire is becoming intense.

London reports a victorious raid on the new Le Transloy front, in which an officer and twenty-four other Germans were brought back. At Beaucourt and Serre German rushes were thrown back. In the Gorz district Vienna chronicles the defeat of several Italian companies in a large-scale trench raid and the capture of six officers, two machine guns and 140 men. In a similar enterprise twenty-seven prisoners and two more machine guns were taken.

ASK LIBERTY FOR EGYPT

Leaders Wire Wilson Not to Forget Nation "Violated by British"

Berlin, Jan. 31. (By wireless to Sayville).—Representatives of the Egyptian National Party, says the Overseas News Agency, have telegraphed President Wilson expressing the hope that the United States will not forget the Egyptians, "who have been violated by the British, not only contrary to international law, but contrary to solemn promises and written treaties."

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Advertisement for J.M. Gidding & Co. Text includes: "J.M. Gidding & Co. 564-566 and 568 Fifth Avenue, 46th and 47th Sts.", "ARE CLOSING OUT—HANDSOME FUR-TRIMMED WRAPS Formerly to \$325—at \$48, \$75, \$165.", "DAYTIME AND EVENING GOWNS Formerly to \$300—at \$55, \$75, \$125.", "FASHIONABLE FUR-TRIMMED SUITS Formerly to \$250—at \$50, \$75, \$95.", "\$10 to \$12 Blouses—of Net & Lingerie at \$5.", "FUR COATS—of Hudson Seal and Caracul Formerly \$225 to \$850—at \$95 to \$475.", "FUR SETS—of Fox and Skunk Formerly \$65 to \$195—at \$35 to \$95."